The Washington Merry-Go-Round

Red Carpet for Nixon Slightly Pale

By Jack Anderson

Secret intelligence reports declare that President Nixon's was made in Russia. high-risk military moves in king who want to ease tensions with the United States.

Although there had been no visible opposition to the President's trip to Peking and invitation to visit Moscow, the Central Intelligence Agency claims the detente was fiercely resisted inside the policy councils of both governments.

CIA documents. The CIA may counter U.S. moves in also picked up each morning maintains, however, that the decision to invite Nixon was by no means unanimous in Moscow or Peking.

the CIA claims the Soviet mil. | Chinese-American fense Minister Andrei surface. Grechko, apparently, has become the principal spokesman Kremlin.

the North Vietnamese suc-lobeying the regulations.

cesses. For the military equip-1 But the Pentagon bigshots, popularity rating high on ment, which has smashed the as usual, are reading the regu- Capitol Hill. South Vietnamese defenses, lations to suit their expensive

Vietnam have undermined against the Chinese for influthe staggering waste continin favor of keeping the Conthose in both Moscow and Pe-ence in Hanoi, had offered the ues. North Vietnamese a \$110 million military loan. Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap, the North Viet only on pressing official busicided to spend it for tanks, heavy artillery and anti-airnamese military genius, decicraft missiles.

The Soviet military brass would like to see a setback for U.S. interests not only in Viet-To protect our sources, we nam but the Middle East. The cannot quote directly from the CIA warns that the Russians Vietnam with new initiatives in the Mediterranean.

The CIA offers fewer specif-Citing "reliable" sources, the Chinese leadership to the detente, itary hierarchy has opposed But bitter opposition, says the late regulations. This, presumdoing business with Nixon. De. CIA, is simmering beneath the ably, meant stopping the prac-

Laird's Good Humor

Our recent columns on the for this faction inside the misuse of the Pentagon auto fleet has drawn a good-humor-tried to follow orders, it found despite the fact that such The Russian marshals, ac ed reaction from Defense itself in hot water with the large cars are legally forbidcording to the CIA, are eager Secretary Mel Laird and or Pentagon's congressional liaiden to other residents of the to share credit in Hanoi for ders from on high to start son office, which is responsi resort island.

ness, had become a luxury lim-fice wanted. ousine service for military potentates and their congressional friends.

Laird, meanwhile, still has two limousines at his constant call in case one should develop motor trouble. His speciai assistant, Carl Wahace, is and delivered home each evening by a military chauffeur.

ics about the opposition within Pentagon garage, however, the Virginia border from were getting the word to put an end to excursions that vio-Pentagon brass. tice of routinely chauffeuring members of Congress around Washington.

ble for keeping the military's

The clash between military tastes, not to save the taxpay-regulations and congressional The Soviets, in the bidding ers' money. Result: most of relations was quickly resolved We told, for example, how gon cars, intended for use ordered to provide where only on pressing official the congressional liaison of-

> So military vehicles continue, for example, to bring in large quantities of liquor from the Pentagon's Washington supplier so there will be plenty to serve to thirsty Congressmen when they attend a military reception or take a military flight.

The fact that such trips involve an apparently illegal-The men who toil in the transportation of liquor across Washington doesn't bother the

Apparently, the abuse of military cars is not confined to Washington. At the U.S. naval base in Bermuda, for example, the brass ride around But when the motor pool in full-size American sedans

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